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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

NEAL

AUG 1 5 2002

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HISASHI SHODA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/015,659 : RECEIVED

FILED: DECEMBER 17, 2001 :

FOR: OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIUM : TC 1700

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical recording medium comprising a substrate and a laser-writable and/or readable recording layer provided thereon, wherein said recording layer contains a chelate dye comprising two or more azo compounds having different structures and a divalent or more metal ion, and said azo compounds are selected from